THE HINDOO PATRIOT

With which is incorporated the Indian Field.

PUBLISHED EVERY MONDAY.

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THE WEEK.

MONDAY, 29TH JANUARY.

HIS HIGHNESS the Maharaja of Mysore has issued the following obituary *Gazette* in honor of his late Dewan, Mr. Runga Charloo :

"His Highness the Maharaja notifies with the deepest regret to the chiefs and people of Mysore the sad intelligence of the death, at Madras, on the night of the 20th instant, of Cettipunium Veeravalli Runga Charlu, C.I.E., Dewan of Mysore.

By the death of this valued public servant, His Highness the Maharaja feels that he has been deprived of an able, faithful, and devoted counsellor, and that the people of the State have lost a true and sympathetic friend.

As a mark of respect to the memory of the deceased Dewan, His Highness the Maharaja directs that all the Courts and public offices throughout the State shall be closed on Monday and Tuesday, the 29th and 30th instants."

A CORRESPONDENT, writing to a contemporary from Darjeeling on the 27th instant, reports an unusually heavy fall of snow, heavier, it is said, than has been experienced for many years. The snow was falling when the mail left, and had been falling for 24 hours; the ground was covered twenty inches in depth with the white mantle. The roads in many places are blocked with large branches of trees that have come down under the unusual pressure, and in some places large trees have fallen entire. The place wears a most wintry appearance, and walking is dangerous, as the snow brings down numerous small landslips. There has also been a heavy fall of snow at Simla. The cold weather has set in in right earnest in Calcutta.

AMERICA IS GO-AHEAD in every respect, even financially. The figures shew how enviable is the financial position of the United States. As compared with 1881-82 the revenue increase for the current fiscal year is estimated at £2,500,000. The expenditure, however, shows a comparative increase of £7,400,000. The result is a surplus revenue amounting to £24,000,000 as compared with £29,000,000 for last year. There is not another country in the world which can boast of such financial prosperity.

IT IS STATED that the Nawab of Cambay has dismissed the group of unpopular officials against whom complaints were made, with the result that about 10,000 people who had emigrated from the State have returned to their homes.

A CORRESPONDENT writes :

I am very glad to see in your paper that the Maharaja of Durbhanga has given a princely donation to the Mahammadan Madrassa here. Educated, enlightened and good Hindu and Mahammadan gentlemen have no other feeling among themselves but friendly. Long ago His Highness the Maharaja of Benares had given a very much handsome donation and the Hon'ble Raja Siva Prosad, a thousand rupees to the Anglo-Mahammadan College at Aligarh. They are only the low-bred bad characters both Hindu and Mahammadan who want to foment religious animosity for their own private ends.

Yours faithfully,
HINDU-MAHAMMADAN.

Calcutta, 27th January 1883.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us a long letter regarding the exhortation of Babu Biprodas Pal Chowdry, now in England, to our countrymen to take to manufacturing industry. As he makes no practical suggestions, we cannot publish his letter.

TUESDAY, 30TH JANUARY.

A CORRESPONDENT sends us an account of the last Saugor Mela. The collection of pilgrims was larger than it was for some years past, about a lac of souls, and thanks to the excellent arrangements made by Babu Harimohun Sen, Deputy Magistrate, Diamond Harbour, crime was at a minimum. Cholera, we are sorry to learn, raged fearfully; there were four deaths. The number of shops was very large, but the prices were high. The proprietor of the steamer *Enterprize*, Babu Ramkissen Das, gave the pilgrims who came by it a trip to Pooree, which they enjoyed very much. The Captain and other officers of the vessel are highly spoken for their attention to the pilgrims.

ANOTHER correspondent has furnished us with the following details of the Saugor Mela :

1. Mela began on the 5th and lasted till the 17th January. Bathing festival commenced on the 12th and lasted for 3 days.

2. Result [illegible] taken on the 13th. Males 48,241, females 50,2[illegible]al 98 510. No. of steamers 5, no. of boats 2,303.

3. No. of shops 440.

4. Police Staff deputed to do duty : Sub-Inspector 1, Head-Constables 3, Constables 27 ; 3 Police boats with crews 34 in number.

5. One boat capsised with 8 men, 2 Police boats were sent, six lives saved. Two dead—both females. Those who were saved received three rupees from the mela fund and about Rs. 20 from the pilgrims.

6. One Civil Hospital Assistant with medicines went on the 11th. Cholera broke out on the 10th, only one case on the first day. No. of cholera cases 37, fever 6, dysentery 3, death from cholera 7. No theft case. One case of assault only.

7 Mela ground was divided into 11 constables beats. Watch and ward kept for all the 24 hours. In each beat there was a mehter to remove pots, leaves and other filthy substances. Latrines for males and females were made. Two bridges (temporary) were made in the khal that passes through the mela ground and four temporary ghats in the sweet water tank—space for landing and bathing purposes was kept, and the tank, the bridges and the ghats were all lighted from the 11th to the 14th. Amount realized from Mohunt Tikan Das for cost Rs. 359. This does not include cost of making bridges and lighting.

The organization of the Mela devolved upon Babu Harimohun Sen, Deputy Magistrate, Diamond Harbour, who deserves great credit for the excellent arrangements made.

WE ARE requested to announce that the seventh anniversary of the Baraset Athletic Sports will take place on Monday next the 12th proximo.

WE HAVE received the following letter from Mymensing :

Sheik Shadi advised the courtiers that if a king were to say at noon that this is night you must say, yes, my lord, we see the stars and the moon; so it is no wonder at this time of Rent Bill agitation that the members of the Subordinate Executive Service should espouse the cause of the tenantry when they see that officials, who can make and unmake them by a stroke of their pen, have lost all regard for decency in discussing the said question, and do not hesitate to make violent attacks against the highest judicial authority of the land. Hence perhaps we see Deputy Magistrates to the sacrifice of their legitimate work issuing pamphlets containing all possible quibbles in order to advocate the cause of the ryots. So far of course zemindars have no right to complain. But official proceedings are a different thing. The annual rents of Sherepore ryo's have been from time to time enhanced by unit of months instead of rupees. For instance a ryot paid four (4) annas per bigha in the year 1810, but this rate of rent has been enhanced to 8 annas per bigha in 1830; but if you ask a ryot what rent he pays he will answer I pay 24 months' rent in one year, and where the rent has been trebled it is called 36 months' rent per annum. But this rent is nothing but an aggregate enhanced rent for the year and the ryots are paying at this rate since last 30 to 50 years. They are not recent enhancements. But Babu N. K. Bose's feelings were shocked at the very name of 36 months and so without caring to enquire as to the origin and real meaning of this so-called 36 months' rent, he has, during his last tour in Sherepore, expressed an opinion that the ryots are not bound to pay more than 12 months' rent for a year. He considers the excess as *Abwab* under the law. This opinion has had a talismanic effect upon many ryots, who withhold the payment of their rents unless the zemindars should reduce the rents to the original rate as it existed some 50 years before. There is no trace to be found in the zemindars' papers that they take 24 months' or 36 months' rents. Dakhilas are granted for the kists and years for which the rents are paid. The whole amount is looked upon by the tenants and zemindars as annual rents. There was no complaint about this before the advent of Mr. N. K. Bose to Sherepore. So you will see that one wrong step of the Assistant Magistrate has excited the whole tenantry of Sherepore. What surprises me most is how this gentleman could without the least inquiry give expression to such a mischievous opinion. I should like to know how he will quell the storm, which he has thus caused.

A VOICE FROM MOFUSSIL.

A CORRESPONDENT writes to us as follows :

As the Government of Bengal is going to reduce the P. W. Temporary Establishment after the 31st of March 1883 (vide Chief Engineer's No. 3622E. of the 8th November 1882), I hope you would kindly ask the Government to publish the names of those officers whose services will not be required after that date in the *Calcutta Gazette* with their ranks, grades and qualifications against their names with a view of giving the Road Cess, Municipal and other local boards an opportunity to select candidates for employments out of those officers.

WE HAVE received the prospectus of the Uttarpara Association. "The object of this Association," it is stated, "will be to discuss the proceedings of the Local Municipality and of the District and Divisional Boards, to make loyal suggestions on the legislative measures of Government and to reform social customs and generally, to give the people such social and political training as will make them able citizens and useful members of the different boards of the District." We wish it success.

WEDNESDAY, 31ST JANUARY.

THE FOLLOWING extract from a London letter to the *Englishman* anent Mr. Mackenzie's note on Sir Richard Garth's minute on the Rent Bill is going the round of the papers :

The lawyers have furiously taken up the matter as a constitutional question ; and the *Times* hints that Lord Ripon will have to dispense with the services of his Home Secretary if he does not wish to offend public opinion in England Coming so soon after the disclosures of last week in regar. to Mr. Grant Duff's treatment of the *Madras Times*, thid startling telegram has most unquestionably intensified the distrust that is spreading of the wisdom with which affaire are being managed in India. The correspondent culls soms "choice flowers" from "this garland of invective," which are quite sufficient to show that the Government of India has sat upon the Chief Justice quite as savagely as the Governors of Madras sat upon the local *Times*.

The correspondent is mistaken in thinking that the Government of India has "sat" upon the Chief Justice. The Government has had nothing to do with Mr. Mackenzie's minute.

IT IS STATED that the Khyber Pass is closed to merchants' caravans, on account of the differences existing between the Shinwari tribe and the Ameer of Cabul. The Shinwaris, through whose country the Khyber Pass runs, after traversing the Mohmund country, objected to not getting a share in the tolls levied on merchandize and travellers. The Ameer's agent at Dacca, Sirdar Nur Mahomed Khan managed to keep the Shinwaris quiet for a time, but they now seem to have lost all patience.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS seem to require a great deal of looking-after. It is now stated that some of them have been dismissing persons employed under their authority without giving them an opportunity of explaining their conduct or of making any defence! The matter very properly was brought to the notice of the Supreme Government, and it is stated that the attention of the various administrations has been drawn to the orders existing upon the subject, and that they have been directed to see that those orders are rigidly adhered to in every case before removing or dismissing a Government servant. This is as it should be. But we hope this fit of doing justice will not prove momentary.

A CONTEMPORARY says that the present officiating Accountant General of Bengal has directed the reduction of the casual leave hitherto granted to his subordinates from 14 to 6 days. He is said to have further ruled that in cases of medical leave, an assistant or clerk will be required to produce a medical certificate from a Presidency Surgeon, whether that leave be for a couple of days or more. Has the Government sanctioned these absurd and cruel rules ?

IT HAS BEEN PROPOSED to put a tax on speculation in America. A certain section of the House of Representatives at Washington intend to introduce an amendment to the Government Tariff and Tax Bills to the effect that stock exchange and market operations of a speculative character shall be subject to taxation. It is proposed by the amendment that on all sales of cotton, grain, or other agricultural products where the article sold is not to be delivered within ten days of the date of the sale, a tax of 2½ per cent. shall be paid both by the buyer and seller, and that a tax shall be levied upon all speculation in stocks, bonds, or other securities when they are sold in less than twelve months after their purchase. This latter tax is to vary from a quarter of 1 per cent. on the nominal value for less than twelve months to 2½ per cent. for less than thirty days. The object it seems is to stop time-bargains.

THURSDAY, 1ST FEBRUARY.

A CORRESPONDENT has sent us the following :

The Great Tipperah case has been decided. The case made a sensation in Eastern Bengal and also in the metropolis. It may be in the recollection of many that about 3 years ago Prince Nabodwip Chandra, son of the deceased Moharaja Eshan Chandra Bahadur, brother of the present chief of Independent Tippearh, H. H. the Moharajah Beer Chandra Dev Bormon Manick Bahadur, brought a suit against his uncle before the District Judge of Comillah (Tipperah) for maintenance at the rate of Rs. 5000 per month and also claimed to be declared by the reigning chief as *Jubraj*—Heir Elect to the Throne of Independent Tipperah. The District Judge Mr. Towers only decreed maintenance at Rs. 600 per month. Both parties appealed against this order to the High court before Mr. Justice McDonnell and Mr. Justice Tottenham. Mr. Advocate General Paul urged that the British Courts had no jurisdiction to try the case, the main-

tenance being a charge upon the *Tipperah* State, and it was the ancient hereditary custom in the Tipperah Raj that the reigning sovereign was at liberty to nominate his own successor, who had already been elected and acknowledged by the Paramount Power. He is the eldest son of the present chief, Prince Radhakishor Dev Barmon Jubraj Goswami Bahadur by name.

The High Court has given a decree to the Maharaja and dismissed Maharaj-Kumar Nabodwip Chandra's appeal on the ground that the British Courts have no jurisdiction in the matter.

OUR GOSSAIN DURGAPUR correspondent writes:

The result of the Gossain Durgapur School at the last Entrance Examination has been very satisfactory. It stands first in Nuddea and second in the Division. It has beaten the Krishnaghur College. This is entirely due to the new management in the teaching staff by the able Secretary of the School, Babu Radhica Prosunno Mukherji, and the interest taken by Dr. Chatterjee. As the higher classes of the Chuadanga school are going to be abolished I hope boys will flock in here and the result at the next Examination will be more satisfactory.

ALLEN'S INDIAN MAIL thus notices the new Companions of the Indian Empire: "We think Lord Ripon is to be congratulated on the list of C.I.E.s that has been issued on the occasion of this year's "Empress's day." The public estimation in which Mr. H. G. Keene and Dr. Sircar are held accords exactly with what was generally understood to be Her Majesty's gracious intention in instituting the Order of the Indian Empire in 1877. The Nawab Abdul Latif is one of the acknowledged leaders of the great Musalman community of Bengal. Mr. Khote is appropriately decorated at a time when Local Self-Government is being largely extended."

THE SAME PAPER makes the following remarks on the investiture of Maharaja Jotindra Mohun Tagore Bahadur with the insignia of K.C.S.I.:

No honours that have been conferred in India since the accession of Lord Ripon to the Viceroyalty have given more general satisfaction, or have been more creditable to His Excellency's discernment in recommending the recipients to the favour of their Sovereign, than those that have recently been bestowed on the Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore. Sir Jotendra had been selected by Lord Mayo for the title of Raja Bahadur, both on account of his ancient lineage and great wealth, and above all in consideration of his eminent abilities, high personal character, and distinguished public services. On the occasion of the proclamation of Her Majesty as Empress of India, the Raja was elevated to the dignity of a Maharaja on the recommendation of Lord Lytton; and was invested with that rank by Sir Ashley Eden in full durbar at Belvedere. Not long afterwards he was appointed a member of the Viceroy's council; and in this capacity he so deeply impressed Lord Lytton with his capacity (manifested notably in the debate on the Civil Procedure Bill) and his uprightness of character, that he was reappointed to the Council in 1879, and also received the further distinction of the C. S. I. Having been thus honoured and trusted by two Conservative Viceroys, he has now won from their Liberal successor the same golden opinions; and has been invested by the Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, in a ceremony marked by unusual pomp and magnificence, with the insignia of a Knight-Commander of the Star of India.

IN THE SAME ARTICLE our contemporary pays the following graceful and well-merited compliment to the Tagore Family:

Of all the names that adorn the annals of British India, it would be impossible to find any more honoured than those of Dwarika Nath Tagore, Gopee Mohun Tagore, the Maharaja Rama Nath Tagore, Hurro Coomar Tagore, Prosunna Coomar Tagore, C. S. I., the Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore, K. C. S. I., and the Raja Sourendra Mohun Tagore, C. I. E. The life of the famous reformer, Dwarika Nath Tagore, the honoured guest of her Majesty and the Prince consort, and, indeed, of the whole English nation, forms no inconsiderable part of the Indian history of his time. Of Prosunna coomar, distinguished alike as a statesman, a lawyer, and a Sanskritist, it was said with truth, "There was scarcely any important law, particularly relating to land, which was enacted during the last forty years, regarding which he was not consulted by the Government." The Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore, too, has found time, in the intervals of his public life, for the cultivation of the learned tastes of his ancestors; and is well-known as a dramatist and as a translator from the Sanskrit. The reputation of the Raja Sourendra Mohun Tagore, as the founder of the modern school of Hindu music, and the learned investigator of the abstruse subject of Sanskrit music, is known in every civilised country of the globe. There has not been a single important movement of reform set on foot in Bengal—whether in a religious, a social, or a political line—with which the versatile talents of the Tagores have not associated their name. One, as joint founder of the chief English college of India, establishes the claim of the family to participate in the credit of the introduction of the higher English education. Another, as joint founder of the Brahma Samaj, led the way to a great religious revival. Others again, as original promoters of the British Indian Association, taught their countrymen the value of some of the political machinery of the west. In all lines they have been pioneers of progress and reform; whilst, like true Conservatives, they have been able to distinguish the difference between reform and restlessness—between the toilsome upward path of real progress, and the facile descent of Avernus that is so attractive to more headstrong and less far-seeing politicians.

WE ARE EXCEEDINGLY sorry to record the death of Moulavi Abdul Jubber, late Head Translator, Persian Department, High Court. He was one of the first fruits of Anglo-Mahomedan education in Calcutta. He served as Mirmunshi under Lord Dalhousie in the second Punjab War, and was in attendance upon Lord Canning at Benares during the Sepoy Mutiny. He received khelluts from Government in recognition of his services. As chief translator he was highly appreciated by the Judges of the High Court. He was also a Justice of the Peace for Calcutta. He was a quiet and unobtrusive gentleman; in private life he was highly esteemed by his countrymen and co-religionists.

THE PIONEER thus announces the severance of Mr. Sinnett's connection with that paper:

The gentleman who for the past ten years has conducted this journal as editor with conspicuous ability and success gives up charge, to-day, to seek fresh fields and pastures new, and we heartily join with his many friends in wishing him a career of continued prosperity.

It is a pity that Mr. Sinnett's connection with the *Pioneer* should cease just as he was beginning to understand the people of this country and to do justice to them. We are glad to learn that he proposes to start a paper in Calcutta on his present principles.

FRIDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY.

IT IS stated that Mr. J. W. Quinton, the Commissioner of Allahabad, has been appointed to succeed Mr. C. Crosthwaite in the Legislative Council.

WE ARE sorry to learn that Her Excellency Lady Ripon goes home by the steamer which leaves Bombay on the 2nd March. We hope she will return to India next cold weather to lighten the labours of her illustrious husband.

THE HON'BLE Rao Saheb Vishvanath Mandalik C. S. I. is again amongst us. He had come to Northern India for a change, and has taken the opportunity to pay our city a flying visit in order to make some enquiries about its drainage system.

WE HAVE received the following from our occasional Burrisal correspondent:

The district of Backergunge is an out-of-the way district of which the general public take little or no notice. They only hear of it as the source of their Ballam rice-supply. The day is not far distant when this district will rise in considerable importance in consequence of the facilities of communication for which there is more than positive assurance. The frequent visits of the Assam steamers have already brought the district town, Burrisaul, nearer to Calcutta and the opening of the Khulna Railway will diminish the remaining distance. People who have not studied the history of this district can scarcely form any idea of its wealth and vast resources. There is not another district in Bengal which can vie with its fertility and the exuberance of its material resources, its rice, beetlenut and cocoanut bring to its people an abundance of wealth which keeps them above want and poverty. But the district town of Burrisal has made itself famous by an event the mention of which will startle you. There is a Brahma Somaj here and a teacher of the Government school of this place is its pastor. On the occasion of the last Anniversary of the Somaj, which was celebrated on the 24th January last, the wife of the pastor mounted the pulpit and delivered a sermon. This was the first time a Bengali zenana lady, delivered a public pulpit lecture. There was a tremendous rush into the Somaj on the occasion.

WE HAVE received another communication on the subject of the Tarkessur Railway. We repeat the Government ought to take into consideration all the schemes proposed for the line.

TWENTY-EIGHT thousand and three hundred persons visited the Indian Museum during the month of January last, of whom 27,137 were natives and 1209 Europeans and others.

APROPOS of the proposed opening of the Diamond Harbour Railway by His Excellency the Viceroy and His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor a correspondent writes to us as follows:

It would not be wise to declare the line open in the face of the grave *contretemps* which has come to notice and which I fear may lead to a disaster. The authorities in charge of the works will incur a grave responsibility in inducing the Viceregal and Lieutenant-Governor's parties to travel over the Mutlah line and cross the tottering railway bridge over Tolly's nullah. I am credibly informed that the cracks in the piers of the bridge above-mentioned are of such a nature that nothing short of thorough overhauling will make the bridge a safe passage for a loaded train.

We are sure that the Public Works Department will first test the bridge before carrying Cæsar and his fortune over it.

SATURDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY.

WE HAVE BEEN favoured by the Secretary to the Government of Bengal P. W. D. with a copy of correspondence relating to the opening of a steamer service between Goalundo and Burrisal. It appears that the I. G. S. Co. offered to run a steamer provided the gross receipts amounted to Rs. 5000 a month. This was not probable, and the Road Cess Committees of Furreedpore and Burrisal were accordingly moved to make a monthly grant of Rs. 600. The Furreedpore Committee having refused the proposal the Backergunge Committee have also backed out. The project has consequently fallen through, and will be revived on the completion of the Khulna Railway. We do not think the Government was wise in discontinuing the former arrangements.

WE HAVE received a copy of an interesting little paper entitled the Regenerator of Aryavarta, a weekly paper "devoted to religious, social and political reform." We wish it success.

WE ARE sorry to learn that the Opium Agent of Behar has reported to the Board of Revenue that the poppy crops over extensive tracts in the districts, north of the Ganges, which a fortnight ago promised a bumper produce, have now been all hopelessly destroyed. The disaster is expected to spread into other districts in the Behar Agency. This is sad news. The prospects of the next Budget we are afraid are not cheering.

WE THANK Babu Kamikha Churn Ghose for a copy of his Bengali primer *Rutna Sar*. It is an easy and well-arranged primer.

THERE WERE 299 deaths in Calcutta during the week ending the 27th January, of which 38 were from cholera, 1 from small-pox, 91 from fevers, 45 from bowel-complaints, 7 from accidents, 22 from pthisis, and asthma, 10 from spleen-diseases, 21 from tetanus and the rest from other causes. The rigour of the cold weather it would seem has improved the health of the town.

WE HAVE received the *Oriental Miscellany* for February. The punctuality of the *Maga* is highly commendable. It contains several articles well-written and well worth reading.

THE HON'BLE Mr. Reynolds has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Calcutta University in succession to Mr. Justice Wilson resigned.

LAST EVENING His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief gave an Evening Party, to which he invited the *elite* of both the European and Native communities. His Excellency was most courteous to his guests.

HIS HONOR the Lieutenant-Governor presided at the last distribution of prizes to the pupils of the Burdwan Maharaja's College and justly eulogized the Maharaja for his munificence in founding the College.

THE ENGLISHMAN has received the intelligence of a serious disturbance among the Bhils in Ali Rajpur, which is under the Bhanjurar Agency. The Bhaupuwur agency has been instructed from Bombay to adopt measures to guard the frontier of Rewa Kantha and co-operate with tha agent at Ali Rajpur, if necessary.

WE TAKE from the morning papers the following telegrams of the week:

London, January 27.—The exchange of views between St. Petersburg, Vienna, Berlin and Rome has resulted in Lord Granville's proposals respecting Egypt being accepted in principle. Messrs. Healy, Davitt and Quinn have refused to give bail for their good behaviour.

30.—The Secretary of State for India has fixed the rate of Exchange for Indian pay and allowance from next April at 1-7⅞.

31.—At a meeting held here yesterday Mr. Justin Macarthy made an urgent appeal for the relief of those likely to suffer through the threatened famine in Ireland.

London, February 1.—Advices form Durban state that Cetewayo was installed yesterday as King. There was a gathering of 5,000 natives to witness the ceremony. The Chiefs have expressed their dissatisfaction at the new conditions imposed upon them. The Under-Secretary for India, speaking at Bolton yesterday, expressed his satisfaction at the abolition of the cotton duties. The Indian questions looming in the distance were, he said, the rent question; local autonomy; army organisation, and finance, all of which required the highest statesmanship, and will happily not be discussed in a party spirit. He trusted the Lord Kimberley's ability to bring about a satisfactory settlement.

Paris, January 26.—The political crisis continues here and is further complicated by the illness of M. Duclerc.

27.—A compromise has been effected between the Ministry and committee with respect to the Bill for the cashiering and expulsion of Pretenders. The cashiering clause is to be retained, but expelling from the country is to be left to the discretionary power of the Government. Admiral Jaurrequibery, Minister of Marine and colonies, has tendered his resignation. General Billot, Minister of War, retains office provisionally. The debate on the Bill is fixed for Monday. A witness at Dublin has identified two of the assailants of Mr. Field, the Juror. They have been remanded for a week.

28.—In consequence of M. Duclerc, President of the Council of the Ministry, and General Billot refusing to accept the compromise, the Ministry has resigned.

28.—M Grevy has summoned M. Jules Ferry to form a new ministry.

29.—M. Jules Ferry has declined to undertake the formation of the new Cabinet. M. de Tallieres has succeeded in forming a coalition cabinet. All former members retain office except Mm. Duclerc, Billot and Jaurequiberry. M. Thibaudin has been appointed Minister of War, Mr. Tirard Minister of Finance takes the charge of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs *ad-interim*.

29.—General Thibaudin is only appointed Minister of War *ad interim*. The Ministers of War and Marine and colonies have not yet been appointed. M. Fadieres has been appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs *ad-interim*. The new Ministry will support a compromise with the committee of the Chamber of Deputies. There was a debate in the Chamber of Deputies to-day upon the proposed compromise, but the chambers adjourned without anything of an eventful character taking place.

30.—General campenon has been appointed Minister of War.

31.—General Campenon having now declined to accept the portfolio of War Minister, General Thebaudin has been

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appointed Minister of War. France has declined to accept the mediation of England in the Madagascar question.

Paris, February 1.—The chamber of Deputies to-day passed by a large majority the Bill for the cashiering and expulsion of pretenders, but, in conformity with a compromise effected with the Ministry. M. Fallieres was not present at the debate.

THERE WERE gay doings at Bettia on the occasion of the Lieutenant-Governor's visit. The Maharaja and Maharaj-Kumar spared no expense to entertain in a fitting manner their distinguished guest and party.

THE SECOND son of His Highness the Maharaja of Holkar is on a visit to Calcutta. We hope our princes will understand that travel forms an important part of education.

WE HAVE to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of the under-mentioned publications and periodicals:—1. Report on the Trade and Resources of the Central Provinces for 1881-82. 2. Report on the administration of the Punjab and its dependencies for 1881-82. 3. Report on the External Trade of Bengal with Nepal, Sikkim, and Bhutan for 1881-82. 4. Report on the internal trade of Bengal for 1881-82. 5. Administration Report of the Railways in India for 1881-82. 6. Proceedings of the Madras Native Association on the Resolution of the Government of India on Local Self-Government. 7. Indian Public Works Finance, Exchanges and Loans:—A Problem, a paradox and a solution—(a paper read before the East India Association on the 15th January 1883.) By W. Martin Wood. 8 Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan (Reprinted Popular Edition) Nos. V. and VI. Vol I. 9. The Oriental Miscellany for February 1883. 10. Bharuti—a Bengali monthly for Maugh 1289 B. E. 11. Krisi Tatwa—An Agricultural Journal in Bengali, nos. 11. and 12, Vol. IV. 12. Trade and Navigation returns from April to September 1882. 13 Travancore Almanac for 1883.

INDIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE CULTIVATION OF SCIENCE.

(210, Bow-Bazar Street.)

(SESSION 1883.)

Lecture by the Very Rev. Father Lafont, S. J., C. I. E., on Thursday, the 8th February at 7½ P.M.

Subject: On the Laws of Gravity.

Lecture by Babu Tara Prasanna Roy, F.C.S., F.I.C., on Saturday, the 10th inst. at 3 P. M.

Subject: Oxygen.

The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1883.

BENGAL IN 1881-82.

THE BENGAL REPORT before us is a record of the last year of Sir Ashley Eden's administration of this province. Mr. Rivers Thompson, the present Lieutenant-Governor assumed office on the 24th April last, and was not therefore in charge of the province during any portion of the year with which the report deals. Under the new system the administration report is a dry chronicle of facts, unrelieved by any expression of opinion or statement of reasons for any line of policy. But facts are stubborn things, and judged by the array of facts given in this report the last year of Sir Ashley Eden's administration was as much distinguished for hard solid work as the previous years. The seeds of many schemes of improvement and reform which he had sown at the outset of his career germinated during the last year. There was not a department in which there were not visible marks of activity and vigour. It is often said that our rulers have ears but no eyes, that they decide from what they hear, but seldom see things with their own eyes. But Sir Ashley was of a different turn of mind. He wanted not only to hear but to see, and so he made it a point to visit the districts every year, and also insisted upon the district officers doing likewise. As usual he made a tour through East Bengal and Behar last year. For some time past the necessity of strengthening the judicial service had become evident owing to increase of litigation. Accordingly we read in the report that in the judicial service a re-organisation of the staff of Subordinate Judges and Munsifs, which had for some time become a matter of great importance, was carried out. The liberal manner in which Sir Ashley Eden dealt with the Subordinate Judicial Service was deserving of high commendation. But this was not the only measure of judicial reform. Sir Ashley felt much the want of judicial training for covenanted civilians, and so he vested several Assistant and Joint-Magistrates with powers of Munsif. He established separate Rent Courts for the speedy disposal of Rent suits. There was during the past year distress among the Hill tribes on the Chittagong frontier, and Sir Ashley Eden quietly relieved it. Several Howlong Chiefs, who had for some time before held aloof, presented themselves uninvited. Their visit was, as it turned out, prompted by the hope of obtaining assistance from the Government in consequence of the destruction of their crops by an inroad of rats; but the freer intercourse which was established through this circumstance between their tribe, numbers of which flocked into the heart of the district in search of food, and the population within our boundary, will, it is hoped, effect a permanent change in the attitude of suspicion which they have hitherto preserved towards us. The destruction caused by the invasion of rats was not confined to the villages beyond the frontier: they penetrated into our territory, did much damage in the eastern tracts, and then disappeared into the Cachar-Luschai country, where they appear to have done equal mischief. The loss of the crops and stored grain caused such scarcity that the Government sanctioned expenditure up to Rs. 50,000 for the purchase of rice for sale and gratuitous distribution among the people, both within and beyond the frontier. Surveys and settlements were carried on with usual vigour. We cannot congratulate the Government on the management of *khas* estates. It is admitted in the Report that "direct management entails a good deal of trouble and is not always successful." Why then persist in it? Sir Ashley Eden hated excessive or superfluous legislation, and the legislative mill was therefore quiet during the past year. Various changes for the improvement of the general efficiency of the Police force caused a slight increase in the Police expenditure during the year. Chief among these was the creation of a new grade of Sub-Inspectors for the charge of important outposts, which required a better class of officers than the head-constables to whom they were formerly entrusted. The Arms Act has practically destroyed the trade in fire-arms. This fact is thus noticed in the report before us: "The Calcutta trade in arms appears, in fact, to have sunk to very small proportions. Only 60 sporting rifles, 180 sporting guns, and 252 pistols and revolvers, were imported during the year, as compared with 441 sporting rifles, 1,778 sporting guns, and 482 pistols and revolvers in 1875. On the other hand the attacks of wild animals have increased. The destruction of wild animals and snakes was less succesful than in the previous year, only, 1,213 of the former and 19,282 of the latter having been killed, as compared with 4,783 and 23,201 respectively in 1880." So much for the working of the Arms Act. The past five years have seen the introduction of many improvements in the Bengal jails. The staff, both superior and inferior, has been reorganised; new buildings have been constructed; a better water-supply and a more liberal scale of diet have improved the general health of the jails; fortnightly weighments of the prisoners are made for the purpose of enabling the officials to judge whether they require a change of diet or labour the mark system, which allows the prisoners to earn by good conduct and industry a reduction of their term of imprisonment, has been amended, so as to give a greater incentive to good behaviour; the services of convict officials have been more largely utilized; and the registers and forms have been thoroughly revised. Regarding registration an important fact is noted. There was a large falling-off in the execution of perpetual leases of land. It is thus accounted for: "The falling-off in perpetual leases admits of explanation on several grounds. It must obviously have been due to some extent to the fact that the large number of these leases registered in past years in the districts where they have been most frequent has diminished greatly the number of holdings for which the tenants are able to take, or the landlords willing to grant, settlements in perpetuity. The uncertainty which exists as to the proposed Rent Law has doubtless also made both parties less inclined to enter into any permanent agreement in regard to the land; while the low prices received for agricultural produce of late years have probably operated as a further check to such arrangements. The landlord, whose rent represents the value of a certain proportion of the crop, would be naturally unwilling to fix any rent in perpetuity in a season of depressed value; while the tenant, who realizes a smaller income from his crop in such a season, would be less able generally to pay the premium demanded for the grant of the lease. A fall in mortgages and bonds for the payment of money during the year indicates a continued advance of prosperity among the people at large." The economic condition of the people is described in the following terms:

The harvests of the year, though deficient in some tracts, gave a good outturn for the entire province, the addition of which to the large stocks already accumulated from the excellent crops of the previous year caused a further decline in the price of grain and a further improvement in the general condition of the people. The increased prosperity of the year was, however, more largely enjoyed by the labouring classes and people with fixed incomes than the agriculturists. In several districts the latter complained of the difficulty which they experienced in disposing of their produce and in paying their rents from the prices realized. This doubtless proved a source of considerable inconvenience to many of the landlords also. The stagnant state of the market was partly attributable in some cases to want of easy communication with large centres of trade; but this drawback will be removed by the expansion of the railway system, which is now being rapidly pushed on.

There was some depression of trade in Bengal during the past year. The net result of the fluctuations in the sea-borne trade of the province during the past year was a decline of a crore of rupees, the imports having diminished by a crore and a half, while the exports rose by only half a crore. The reduction, in *imports* was caused by a decrease of a crore and three quarters in the trade with foreign ports, which was only partially balanced by a rise of a quarter of a crore in the trade with Indian ports. The advance in *exports* was due to an excess of seventy-five lakhs in the shipments to foreign ports, against which there was a decline of only twenty-five lakhs in shipments to Indian ports. The net improvement in this branch of the trade would have been nearly one crore instead of only half that amount had not a further fall occurred during the year in the prices of agricultural produce, which composes the bulk of the exports. A decline of nearly two crores took place in the imports owing to a contraction of shipments of cotton goods, mainly attributable to the existence of large stocks in the Indian market in consequence of excessive importation in the previous year. The repeal of the cotton duties did not stimulate this trade. The Calcutta coasting trade declined by 3½ lakhs, imports having fallen by 16 lakhs and exports risen by only 12½ lakhs. Of the minor ports Chittagong has made by far the greatest progress of late years. Its trade has developed from 67½ to 188½ lakhs within the past five years, the advance in the past year alone having amounted to 45¼ lakhs. Its chief exports are jute and rice, and its chief import salt. The successful administration of the finances was the strongest point in Sir Ashley Eden's administration. Both the imperial and provincial revenues received remarkable developement. With a flourishing treasury Sir Ashley sedulously applied himself to the execution of works of public utility, improvement of communications by extension of railways and opening of canals, and construction of drainage and water-supply works and public buildings. We have not space for a detailed statement of these works, but go to any district, and you will find visible marks of activity and progress in material improvement. At no period in the history of British rule in Bengal did this province receive so much attention in the developement of its resources as during the Lieutenant Governorship of Sir Ashley Eden. Education both superior and primary occupied a large share of the attention of Government. Money was liberally given for the improvement of the Colleges and primary schools. Thus close attention was paid to administrative improvement, to faci

lity of communication for the benefit of commerce, to the promotion of education, to judicial reform, to efficiency in Police, and to the advancement of the prospects of the educated natives employed in the different branches of the public service. Sir Ashley Eden made over to his successor the administrative machine of this vast British dependency in excellent working order and in a high state of efficiency.

THE BENGAL MUNICIPAL BILL.

III.

THE EXISTING Municipal Act recognizes two classes of Municipalities, first and second. A first class municipality is defined to be a town or village containing at least fifteen thousand inhabitants and an average number of not less than two thousand inhabitants to the square mile of the area of such town or village. A second class municipality is defined to be a town or village containing not less than three thousand inhabitants and an average number of not less than one thousand inhabitants to the square mile of the area of such town or village. It is further declared that until and unless the Lieutenant-Governor shall otherwise direct by a notification, that the towns under the District Municipal Improvement Act 1864 shall be called first class municipalities, and the towns under the District Towns' Act shall be called second class municipalities. It is then provided that in the first class municipality the municipal rate shall be on the annual value of holdings and in the second class municipality a tax upon persons. It is true that under section 77, Act V. of 1876, the Commissioners may from time to time at a meeting convened expressly for the purpose and with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor impose within the limits of the Municipality a rate on the annual value of holdings or a tax on persons. But as a matter of fact the holding-rate is invariably imposed in first class municipalities. Then it is optional with the Commissioners with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor to levy a tax on carriages, horses, and other animals, a fee on the registration of carts, and tolls upon ferries and upon bridges and metalled roads. The sanitary regulations may be extended to any municipality at the discretion of the Commissioners with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor.

The present Bill abolishes the distinction between first and second class municipalities. It puts them all on an equal footing. It provides that unless and otherwise the local Government shall direct every existing municipality shall be a Municipality under the new Act. With regard to the creation of a Municipality the limit of three thousand inhabitants within the town, which applies to second class municipalities under the existing law, is made the general rule. We are of opinion that the old distinction was necessary for the sake of poor villages. Any one conversant with the constitution of municipalities in Bengal, is doubtless aware that the formation of Municipal unions has been productive of great hardship and heart-burning in the Mofussil. A town is taken as the centre of a Municipal union and all outlying villages are added to it as component parts of that union. The result is that the poor rate-payers are made to pay for the benefit of the rich. This point was thoroughly discussed in the Bengal Council when the Bill of 1876 was passed. One speaker said: "Great complaint prevailed in the mofussil in consequence of the inclusion of villages in municipal unions which were not able to bear the burden of municipal taxation. There were also outlying villages incorporated with municipalities which did not receive any adequate return for the taxes they paid, and the inhabitants of which were therefore sufferers by the extension of the Act to them. When he proposed that no outlying village having a population of less than 1,000 souls should be included in a first class municipality, and no village having a population of less than 500 souls should be included in a second class municipality, he meant that such villages were not in a position to bear municipal burdens. Bengal consisted chiefly of rural villages; its wants in sanitary matters were few: but the machinery for municipal administration required a large expenditure of money which many of these villages were not in a position to meet. Considering these circumstances, he submitted that the limitation proposed in a subsequent section would not obviate the objection he had taken, and he therefore hoped the amendment would be agreed to." Sir Stuart Hogg said: "Every officer who had mofussil experience knew that injustice might be done at present by including a number of outlying villages in a municipality. He felt strongly in this matter, because he feared that in some cases injustice was sometimes done by levying high taxation from a large number of villages for whose benefit but little was ever expended." This point was at last settled by the substitution of the word "town" for "tract of country." But the real objection was not met. There was no definition of the word "town." It was observed in Council: "If the word "town" were not defined, it might be taken to mean any collection of villages to which the name of "town" might be given. The District Towns' Act contemplated townships of that description; though one particular village was taken as a starting point, many agricultural villages lying between the starting point and the extreme point of the municipality might be included. For instance, two good sized villages might lie at the two ends of a municipality, and the intermediate villages might be entirely agricultural and not fit for municipal purposes. But to join these two villages together into a municipality all these villages might be included." Sir Stuart Hogg remarked: "The nucleus of a municipality should be a single town, like Bankipore or Patna. He was opposed to what he understood to be the proposal of the hon'ble member in charge of the Bill—viz, that several towns or villages might be lumped together, and the average of population calculated upon the said towns and villages." But the objection did not prevail. No definition of the word "town" is given in this Bill. On the other hand the old distinction between first and second class municipalities is abolished. The result will be that the taxation, which may be imposed upon first class municipalities, may at the option of the Commissioners, of course with the sanction of the Lieutenant-Governor, be imposed upon poor towns, which are now designated second class municipalities. This is not as it should be. Bengal for the past consists of rural villages, which are not advanced for a high rate of municipal taxation. They do not require an elaborate machinery of sanitary regulations. A few simple rules are sufficient for them. We would, therefore, recommend that not only should the old distinction of first and second class municipalities be maintained, but that as regards the second class municipalities the burden of taxation should be limited and the sanitary obligations also restricted. As they may develope, they may be raised to the rank of first class municipalities. To put rich and poor municipalities on an equal level would be to inflict great hardship upon the poorer municipalities.

MR. HUME ON NATIVE ADMINISTRATION.

MR. HUME has again raised his voice on behalf of the people of India and in vindication of the cause of truth and justice. He has recently written another important letter to the *Pioneer*, in which he mercilessly exposes certain false statements disparaging the Native administration made by the Bundelkhand correspondent of that paper. The correspondent, who is apparently a member of the Indian Political Department, decries the scheme of Local Self-Government; and in doing so he maligns Native Princes and slanders the administration of Native States. He would have the English public believe that if Natives of India were left to manage their own affairs, the state of things in British India will be as bad as that which, according to him, exists in Native States. Mr. Hume has generously taken it upon himself to show that the position taken up by the correspondent of the *Pioneer* is utterly untenable. The correspondent, who must have breathed the tainted atmosphere of Anglo-Indian officialdom, more particularly of the Political Department, for some time, does not hesitate to say that England should rest content with having set up in this country an *image* of freedom and justice and that she must not think of giving *real* freedom and justice to the people of India. Mr. Hume thus answers him on this point:—"Fortunately for human progress, even the masses, sooner or later come to disbelieve, in images and to crave for true gods. So it has happened that, even here in India, the country has grown discontented with the aforesaid golden image, and has begun to cry out the real things; for real freedom, real justice, and not the mere outward shew of these, the golden image of them, which they have hitherto been adjured to admire and revere! Real freedom, real justice, in this case, means India for the Indians, precisely to that extent to which Indians can prove their capacity for administering the affairs of India. All lovers of this ancient land have long felt that no sufficient scope was being afforded to her sons, to prove the capacity they already possess, or to improve and develop this." Again:—"India neither hopes for nor desires a severance between herself and England. She is thoroughly loyal to our beloved Queen-Empress, and if justly dealt with will continue loyal to her successor after that evil day (long may it be averted!) which must deprive us of her beneficent guardianship. But India does hope to see the time when she shall be free to manage her own concerns in her own way, through her own children, under the constitutional rule of a representative of Her Majesty, precisely as the dominion of Canada now manages its own affairs. And it is no doubt because all men see that Lord Ripon's policy is a first practical step in that direction, small it may be, but significant and all that at the moment the times are ripe for, that India, with one consent, appreciates, approves and applauds that policy." Common fairness demands that the people of India should be allowed to administer the affairs of their country to the extent they prove their capacity for the work. In this matter our countrymen do not ask for any favour: they simply crave for real and even-handed justice. When we ask to be given a fair share in the administration of the country, we merely demand that the solemn promises which have been made to us by our rulers should be adequately fulfilled. It is noteworthy that Anglo-Indians are not opposed to concessions to Natives so long as they know that the policy will not be practically carried out. But the moment earnest efforts are made to make theory coincide with practice, their attitude changes, and they do not feel ashamed to condemn strongly the policy which they had before accepted quietly under the belief that it would merely exist on paper.

The correspondent of the *Pioneer* goes so far as to assert that every thing good in the administration of Native States is due to the direct initiation of British procedure or the positive initiative of British officers, and that every thing bad and corrupt is naturally their own. Well does Mr. Hume say that this assertion is wholly unfounded, and that if the correspondent of the *Pioneer* were not lost to all sense of shame he would not venture to state so impudent and injurious a falsehood. He observes:—"With *equal* truth (false as it would be) I might affirm that every thing good in the administration of our British Provinces was a legacy from our native predecessors, or the result of the positive initiative of our native officials, and that every thing bad in it was our own, due to the blundering transplantation of clumsy insular practices into the unsuitable conditions of Indian life! Nay, untrue as this would be, it would be a great deal *nearer* the truth than your correspondent's reckless and unblushing calumnies." The language is somewhat strong, but there can be no doubt that the *Pioneer's* correspondent deserves it fully. Mr. Hume proceeds:—"As a fact, with some exceptions, those [Native] States are best governed, in the sense of their people being happiest and most contented, where there is least of the British 'veneer;' and so far from 'the positive initiative of British officers, having proved an unmixed blessing, it is notorious to all conversant with the inner life of Native States that, however beneficently designed, it has quite as often, if not oftener, done more harm than good." Mr.

Hume states in plain and emphatic terms that, the masses in Native States, as a rule, are as well off and as happy, or at any rate no more unhappy and discontented, than are their brethren in British territories. The importation of Western institutions into India without considering whether they are suited to the conditions existing in the country is one of the gravest blunders which have been committed by the English rulers. We have over and over again pointed out in these columns that the introduction of the scientific revenue system into Jhansi and the Deccan has ruined the people in those tracts, whereas the circum-adjacent Native States are fairly prosperous under the barbarous Native system, which provided for the equal division of the actual produce of the soil between the State and the cultivator. The importation of the Western institutions into this country has not in many cases proved an unmixed blessing, as we know very well to our cost.

In his anxiety to decry the scheme of Local Self-Government the correspondent of the *Pioneer* suggests that if local and district committees were left to manage local affairs they would build bridges without mortar and without waterway, and lay down 3 inches of kunkur where 5 have been decreed. "This," as Mr. Hume remarks, "is clearly intended as an argument against Local self-Government and is so worded as to make it seem that the local and district committees by which such follies were committed were of the same nature and character that the new Local Self-Government scheme will give us, whereas as a fact the committees guilty of such slips and there have no doubt been some such and even worse cases—have been bodies entirely *worked*, under the old system, by European officers, in which no native had any *real* voice. Can any thing better illustrate the flagrant dishonesty of your correspondent than such a line of argument? And as to facts, pray, whose bridges, we may ask, have stood best? Those built 100,200, and even 300 years ago by natives, under native supervision, before British rule was dreamt of, or those later erected by many of our own European officers?" An answer to this pertinent question would be interesting. Even admitting for the sake of argument that the administration of Native States is bad, that is no criterion whatever, urges Mr. Hume rightly, of the capacity of the people of British India for Self-Government. He must have forgotten that the genius of the natives of India, as was pointed out by Sir Donald Macleod, is essentially suited for municipal organization, and that municipal institutions are as well adapted to them as to the people of England. This municipal organisation existed in every village in India previous to the commencement of British rule. This fact should be carefully borne in mind by all persons who, like the correspondent of the *Pioneer*, would make out that India is not ripe for the introduction of Local Self-Government.

PUBLIC WORKS POLITY IN FRANCE AND LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN INDIA.

THE current number of the *Calcutta Review* contains a paper entitled "Public Works Polity in France and its application to Local Self-Government in India," from the pen of Mr. A. J. Hughes, M. I. C. E. The article possesses a peculiar interest at the present moment and it has appeared most opportunely. Mr. Hughes' object in writing the paper is to draw the attention of the Indian public to the points of resemblance between the system of local government operations in France and the local self-government, which it is now proposed to introduce in India. He explains at the outset that the functions of the *Prefet* in each Department, of the *Suos Prefet* in each arrondisement, of the *Maire* in each *commune*, closely correspond with the functions of the Commissioner, the Collector, and the Sub-Divisional Officer in India; and that each of these officials in France acts in most administrative matters in concert with a council of a representative character, which partakes very much of the nature of the Local and District Boards about to be established in this country under Lord Ripon's self-government scheme. Mr. Hughes gives a short account of the working of these institutions in France and examines the constitution of local Representative Committees appointed for the execution and administration of agricultural works of collective interest.

The duty of organising local committees for the execution of these works is vested in the *Prefet* in each Department, and the law relating to their constitution deals with two classes of local committees—free and authorised. The principle, which regulates the formation of these committees, is the consent of the persons interested. The difference between the two classes of committees is that, in free associations the unanimous consent of the persons interested is required in writing, and in authorised associations the consent of the majority only is required. In the constitution of authorised committees the initiative may be taken by one or more of the persons interested, or by the *Prefet* at the instance of engineers of the Public Works Department. Articles are drawn up specifying the object of the enterprise and determining the ways and means of meeting the cost of the works. After a preliminary enquiry into the scheme by the *Prefet*, a public meeting of the persons interested is convened. If the majority of votes is against the prosecution of the work, it is placed on one side and falls through. But if a majority of proprietors, representing two-thirds of the area interested, consent to the work, the papers are forwarded to the *Prefet*, who may authorise the establishment of the committee or refuse it. An appeal lies against his order to the Central Government. Local committees may be formed for the execution of the following works:—(1) defence against the sea, rivers and torrents; (2) the maintenance and construction of drainage channels; (3) the drainage of swamps; (4) the execution of works for the manufacture of salt (5) rendering wholesome undrained and unhealthy lands; (6) irrigation and reclamation of land; (7) sub-soil drainage; (8) local and village roads; (9) agricultural improvements of collective interest. After four months from the publication of the list of proprietors interested no preprietor can dispute his liability to pay for the construction and maintenance of the proposed works. The Chairman of the Committee and Vice-Chairman are elected by the members. The deed of Association specifies the powers and duties of the local committee, and its office-land required for the work may be taken up as land required for public purpose. In the case of the drainage of marshes and the embankment of lands, the *Prefet* may summarily appoint local committees and compel them to execute works required in the interests of the public health and safety; but these compulsory laws are seldom acted on, and the elective system of authorised associations is put in force as far as possible. For works of drainage and embankment the consent of the majority of persons interested is required in writing, and unanimous consent is no longer necessary. The law confers a power of coercion on the majority. On the other hand, coercive provisions do not obtain in the case of works for irrigation, for local roads, and for facilitating sub-soil drainage. The law, it should be remembered, does not state what is to be done in case the committee does not satisfactorily perform its duties.

Mr. Hughes recommends that some such provisions as these should form part of the local self-government Bill now under the consideration of the Bengal Legislative Council, as they would meet the case of numberless small works for irrigation and drainage which remain to be carried out in these provinces. He writes:—"The chief difficulty met with by the collector of a district in instituting works which interests a number of estates, is the money difficulty. The fact that the taxation levied by the local committee is made recoverable by law as a public demand, and the law by which the articles of the association to which the majority of persons interested have given their written assent, are binding on the persons interested, and may contain provisions authorising the *Prefet* to enforce them, affords a basis of financial security on which it is possible to go into the open market and raise loans for the execution of the works. The provision by which the articles of a ssociation may be enforced by the *Prefet* is very elastic, and may be applied to any circumstances which arise in the practical administration of works of collective agricultural interest." We cannot support Mr. Hughes' recommendation. From what has been said above it will be seen that the local committee in France does not differ materially from a limited liability company. The only difference between the local committee and a limited liability company is that the former enjoys privileges which cannot be conferred on public companies. The local committees in France are, in fact, in the position which would be occupied by private companies that may be established under the provisions of Mr. Crosthwaites' Agricultural Loans Bill now before the Viceroy's Legislative Council. The Local Boards which it is proposed to establish in India under Lord Ripon's self-government scheme will be institutions of a widely different character. We have said above that the local committees in France consist of persons interested in any work of improvement, and that the committee draw up a deed of association specifying the object of the undertaking, and also stating the method of raising and recovering the funds required for the construction and maintenance of the work. The local committees in France do not, therefore, partake of the nature of the Local and District Boards, which it is intended to establish in India, and the French system cannot be applied to India, in connection with the local self-government scheme. In this country the Local Boards will administer certain departments of the public service entrusted to their management, with funds placed at their disposal by the Government. The provisions which Mr. Hughes recommends cannot have a place in Local Self-Government Bills. We need not here enter into the question as to whether the principle of coercion should be applied to works for drainage, embankments and irrigation. This question has several times been disccused in France, and a Commission was appointed in 1875 to consider it. The report of the Commission Mr. Hughes himself tells us, states that very great care should be exercised in conferring coercive powers on local committees for the execution of works which, although they have considerable influence on the material progress of the empire, are generally promoted in a spirit of commercial speculation. If this is true of an advanced European country like France, which enjoys the inestimable boon of representative Government, and where public opinion is strong enough to check any abuses of authority, it is still truer of India. We have fully recognised the importance of securing a supply of fresh drinking water to the rural population of India and of providing protection against periodical famines by irrigation channels. Mr. Hughes suggests the formation of committees at the instance of a landholder interested in the matter or of a public official, and he would make such committees corporate bodies with limited liability and empower them to raise money by loans. Mr. Hughes' suggestion for promoting improvement of land by the agency of committees of landholders exercising the powers of corporate bodies with limited liability is deserving of careful consideration, though we must say that the proper place for such legislation is not the Local Self-Government Bills, which have been or will be soon brought forward to give effect to Lord Ripon's great idea.

THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S TOUR.

THE last brief tour of the Lieutenant-Governor through Behar was a Railway tour. His Honor went to inaugurate the extension of the Mozufferpore line to Motihari. The Municipal Commissioners of Mozufferpore presented His Honor a welcome address, in reply to which he said: "I hope to-morrow to take part in the ceremony which will declare the public establishment of the railway that is to connect your town with Motihari, the capital of the Chumparun district, a line which, in a few months, later will be prolonged to Bettiah on the frontiers of Nepaul. I am happy to be able to add that the direct line from Hajipore to this place to which you refer in your address is a project which I have already submitted to the Government of India, and which having received their favourable con-

sideration is now only awaiting the final sanction of her Majesty's Secretary of State." His Honor spoke more fully on the subject in reply to the toast drunk to his health at Motihari. He said: "The original idea, and now the accepted idea of the Government, regarding the Tirhoot State Railways, was a system of railways designed to accommodate that portion of the Bengal Province lying north of the Ganges and to the west of all that part of the country which is accommodated by the system of the Northern Bengal Railway from Calcutta to Darjeeling. A large portion of the land to the north-west of this tract and north of the Gunduck, as well as Nepal has hitherto been served by the traffic on the river Gunduck. But a river is always an uncertain mode of transit, and I think we may say that the Gunduck does not belie the general character of Indian rivers in being especially difficult for the navigation of boats, and it is certain that nearly all the traffic which goes to the eastern bank of the Gunduck would be opened to meet its requirements." His Honor went on to say that the new line traverses 76½ miles of country, and the cost is estimated at something under 44 lakhs. As regards the traffic prospects, it has been estimated that the line will earn annually about Rs. 3,37,000, of which Rs. 1,48,000 will be cleared by the passenger traffic and Rs. 1,89,000 by the goods traffic. His Honor then glanced at the Railway system in the North of Bengal. He said that "a line of railway has already been opened from Calcutta to Darjeeling. From that there are many branches in the system of the Central Bengal Railways which I need not now allude to; but when we get further north we come to a place between Rungpore and Dinagepore, from which lines both eastward and westward have come within the cognisance of the Government. We have now almost completed the line to Dinagepore, which I hope to open some time this year and from Durbhungah eastward, and Dinagepore westward, we shall bring together a system of railway extending from Buxar, the westernmost station of the Bengal Provinces, to Bettiah and right away eastward to the confines of Assam. This small section of seventy-six miles, the opening of which we are to-day celebrating is an important link in the large chain which is some day to bind together the whole nothern section of the Bengal Provinces. It is an important and special corner, carrying us not only to rich and fertile districts in Bengal itself, but leading to the introduction we may hope of railways into the neighbouring province of Nepal." His Honor added: "Since Lord Dalhousie opened the line from Calcutta to Burdwan, we have now more than ten thousand miles of railway line through this province, and the advance of the last thirty years is, I believe, as nothing compared with what will follow during the next twenty years. Because not only does every railway give an impulse to more railways, but you are giving to the people of the country that enthusism about railway which makes them agree, whenever Government has an extension of any line before it, that their particular place should not be left out, but should be associated with any system that may be established." His Honor is quite right. The enthusiasm of the people for Railways is as ardent as it is widespread. And the response which the country is giving to the call for railway traffic is most gratifying. There is a fair prospect of return for all the Railways that have been newly opened in Bengal. Behar has had a large share of the new Railway system, and we hope the development of the resources of the soil which will come in its wake will remedy the depressed condition of the peasantry of Behar. Already there are signs of prosperity among them, and we hope it will increase as the Railway system will advance.

AFFAIRS AT BOMBAY.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Bombay, 29th January, 1883.

WE ARE now in the midst of municipal elections. The rate-payers' elections came off on the 22nd, and though much greater interest was evinced in the return of members this time than on previous occasions, and many more gentlemen, good and true, were returned to the Corporation, yet it became abundantly evident in course of the day that as a body they showed a lack of that discrimination and intelligence, which would look to the intrinsic merits of the individual candidates as the true test of qualification than possession of wealth or the ability to command a certain number of votes from friends and those on whom friends can bring influence to bear. And accordingly it is not to be surprised at that in the new Corporation, we have among many excellent representatives of the rate-payers, those whose previous career gives no promise whatever that they would ever have any say on any of the numerous municipal questions debated or are likely to be debated before the Corporation in the course of the next three years. The drainage of Bombay is still one of the most debateable municipal questions of the day, and although the Corporation has already been committed to a certain course of expenditure, it is felt that further expenditure in the same direction must depend upon as to how far the expenditure already incurred in the portion of the drainage scheme which has been sanctioned has been a complete success or failure Then, again, the question of the extension of local self-government is at present occupying the attention of the Corporation, and in order that the proposals of the Committee of the Corporation already appointed may be intelligently discussed by the new Corporation it is desirable, on all accounts, that the members returned should be qualified by their knowledge and education to offer correct views on the subject. It is to be hoped, however, that the defects in the rate-payers' elections will be made up by the Justices, who are to return 16 members of the Corporation on the 5th of the next month. Generally speaking the Justices' elections are such as to command the approval of all right-thinking persons.

Sir James Fergusson's speech at the Convocation of the Bombay University, which came off on Tuesday last, cannot be said to be very instructive. It certainly falls flat by the side of the learned orations of the Hon'ble Mr. Justice West to which the Fellows have been entertained during the previous years. The Chancellor alluded to the moderation which characterises the discussions of important topics by the University authorities and the friendly feeling which governs the members of the body, native and European. There is, however, scarcely a topic on which the Senate has been divided in which the Europeans have ranged themselves exclusively on one side, and the natives on the other. On the contrary both are found on either side in equal proportions. This indicates a freedom from prejudices of race or nationality which augurs well for the future of extended local self-government to which the Presidency town, as well as the Mofussil districts, are soon to be subjected. The whole effect of the sober speech of His Excellency was, however, marred by the allusion he made to the alleged attempts made to import into professional lectures of dogmatic religious teaching. I must say His Excellency was not happy in the remarks he made on this subject on the authority of the supposed 'public declaration made in a recognised organ of an important section of the native community in that direction.' This 'recognised organ of the native community' referred to is supposed by some to be the journal of the Poona Sarvajanik Sabha, but I cannot think that the well-informed members of the Poona Sabha or the writers in their journal, who are too well posted in their knowledge of the character of professional lectures given in the two Government Arts Colleges at Bombay and Poona, to seriously entertain any misgivings on the score of irreligious teaching imported into such lectures. If the remark is aimed at a particular eminent Professor, the known tendency of whose teaching is of the most liberal description, I think it does simple injustice to the truly catholic character of the teaching imparted by him.

The local branch of the East India Association has stirred itself into activity under the guidance of Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji. The Association is now busy with some of the important questions of practical politics. A Committee has been appointed to consider what steps are necessary to give the city of Bombay the benefit of that extension of local self-Government which is to be enjoyed by the district local boards. Evidently the spirit of the Viceroy's noble Resolution of the 18th May last is applicable to the Municipality of Bombay, which claims and claims rightly an advanced type of the Municipal Government in India. Bombay has, for instance, an elective franchise given to it, which is at present restricted in its scope and purpose. The Chairman of the Town Council is at present an official. The members of the Corporation are partly elected and partly nominated. Now the Viceroy's resolution says that full play is to be given to the elective principle wherever it is possible to do so. The question *arises therefore* whether the full benefit of the elective franchise cannot be given to Bombay. Surely if there is any city in India, which by its public spirit and the manner in which its Municipal affairs have been conducted, has inspired confidence as to its fitness for a higher development of the representative principle, it is Bombay. The Committee is accordingly busy with the consideration of the proposals which may be made to bring the working of the present Municipal Act into harmony with the principles of Self-Government. Another proposal with the consideration of which the Association is employed is as to memorializing Parliament on the subject of giving Lord Ripon an increased lease of power to enable His Lordship to perfect the numerous schemes of domestic reform which he has inaugurated,—schemes which under another Viceroy stand very poor chance of having fair trial given to them. There are some who are of opinion that such memorials are at best premature. I do not, however, think so. They indicate one thing which even the most superficial observer of passing events must acknowledge, and that is the moral hold which Lord Ripon has acquired over the millions of Her Majesty's subjects in India and the general confidence which the Government of India has inspired as to the wisdom of its policy. The political effect of such memorials must be at all events to greatly strengthen Mr. Gladstone's Government against the cry of disapproval of Lord Ripon's policy attempted to be raised by the Conservative press of England.

LATEST NEWS AND NOTES.

THE HON'BLE the Maharaja Sir Jotindro Mohun Tagore Bahadur K.C.S.I., gives a Musical Entertainment to their Excellencies the Marquis and Marchioness of Ripon on Monday next, the 12th instant.

HIS EXCELLENCY the Viceroy has redeemed his promise to equalize the law as regards the trial of European British subjects in criminal matters by Covenanted Magistrates both European and Native. At the last sitting of the Vice-regal Council Mr. Ilbert in a remarkably lucid speech moved for leave to introduce a Bill on the subject. He reviewed the history of the question and said:

We propose to amend the law, first by repealing the words which confine the exercise of jurisdiction over British subjects to persons who are European British subjects themselves; secondly, by declaring that every District Magistrate and Sessions Judge shall be, by virtue of his office a Justice of the Peace, and as such, capable of exercising jurisdiction over European British subjects: and thirdly, by empowering Local Governments to invest with the office of Justice of the Peace, and consequently with jurisdiction over European British subjects, and person who, being either—

(*a*) a member of the Covenanted civil Service.

(*b*) a member of the Native civil service constituted under the statutory rules.

(*c*) an assistant commissioner in a non-regulation province; or

(*d*) a Cantonment Magistrate—is for the time being invested with the powers of a Magistrate of the first class, and is, in the opinion of the Lieutenant-Governor fit to be entrusted with those further powers. We propose to make no distinction in the law between European and native officers. We consider that the care exercised in the selection of officers for the covenanted service, both in Regulation and non-Regulation provinces, together with the subsequent training that they receive, warrants our amending the law in the manner proposed.

We look upon the Bill as the first instalment of a much needed and long-cried-for reform. We know that the subject is surrounded by practical difficulties, but we are inclined to think that the European community as a body are now actuated by a better feeling. We know that many European British subjects have of their own accord waived their privilege in taking their trial before the Deputy Magistrates of Sealdah and the Suburbs. We hope this class of criminal courts will not be excluded from the scope of the Bill.

THE PROMISE to introduce a Bill on the subject of the jurisdiction of the Mofussil Criminal Courts over European British subjects was given last year on a suggestion of the Hon'ble the Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore. The Maharaja accordingly took opportunity to make the following remarks on the subject at the last sitting of the Council:

I have listened with great interest to what has been said by my honorable and learned colleague opposite, and as this may be the last occasion on which I shall have the honour of addressing this council, I beg leave to take this opportunity of offering, on behalf of my countrymen, their grateful thanks to your Excellency for redeeming the promise which was held out to them during the last Session of the council, to

amend that portion of the Criminal Procedure code which relates to the trial of British born subjects. Although it is impossible to say any thing with regard to the details of the bill before it is introduced, the very fact that something will be done now to remove the anomaly which has been a source of standing complaint with my countrymen from a very long time, is in itself a matter for congratulation. Knowing the broad and statesmanlike views which have always characterised your Lordship's Government, we have every reason to hope that legislation in this direction will be of a piece with those other great measures of reform, among which I may name the repeal of the Vernacular Press Act, and the Act which, for the first time, has introduced the principle of self-government in this country, which we feel sure will mark your Lordship's administration as an epoch in the annals of British India; and I am free to confess, my Lord, that on this closing day of my humble career in this Council, I feel an honest pride that I have had the good fortune to occupy a seat here while these great measures have been either passed or initiated under the auspices of Your Excellency's liberal Government.

We fully endorse the utterances of the Maharaja.

THE LAST meeting of the Vice-regal Council was the last day of the Hon'ble the Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore's connection with it, and when he asked permission to make the remarks quoted above, His Excellency the Viceroy said :

Although according to strict rule the Maharajah has lost his time for speaking, I am sure that this council would wish me to give him leave to address them. And in doing so I should like to take the opportunity of expressing the great regret I feel that this, I believe, is the last occasion on which we shall have the presence in the Council of our hon'ble colleague, Maharajah Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore. During the long period of his service in the Legislative council the Maharajah has distinguished himself by his fairness, his enlightened views, and his remarkable courtesy towards all the members of this council.

The Government of India have derived very great advantage from the presence of my Hon'ble friend in the Council, and it is a source of deep regret to me that the fair rule of giving a chance to others to take their place in this council, and therefore of not unduly prolonging the presence in it of any one particular member, added to the Maharajah's own desire to be relieved of duties which clash with his other engagements have necessitated his retirements, and occasioned the great loss to the Council which must result from his absence from it.

Lord Ripon possesses the happy knack of saying the right word at the right moment. Nothing could be more graceful than the compliment which the Viceroy was pleased to pay to the Maharaja. Need we say that every word that fell from His Excellency was fully deserved by the Maharaja. This was the first time the head of the Government has had the grace to speak publicly and generously of the services of a non-official member of the Council on his retirement from it. The native member of Council has to discharge his duties under great difficulties. He is brought face to face with the members of the Government, men of high culture, tried abilities, great administrative experience, and with unbounded resources as to enquiry and information. Although not elected, still he sits in the Council as the representative of the people, and it is not unfrequently his lot to view matters from a standpoint opposed to that of the Government. Healthy opposition is essential to good government, but opposition from a native member is liable to be misconstrued, and independence on his part is looked down upon as impertinence. Happily this is not the feeling under the present liberal Government. Notwithstanding the difficulties we have mentioned Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohun Tagore performed his part in the Council admirably. He never failed to say the right word at the right time; he was bold, outspoken and independent, but the intelligence, tact, moderation and judgment, which characterised his utterrances, commanded the respect and attention of his colleagues. He has enjoyed the confidence of three successive Viceroys, Lord Northbrook, Lord Lytton, and Lord Ripon. No other Native member of the Council has had such a long tenure of office, and it is to be regretted that he did not consent to have it extended. There is not another Native of India, whose words would have carried greater weight in Council than his. He leaves the Council in a blaze of glory. May he live long to enjoy the honors which the Queen-Empress has been graciously pleased to confer upon him, and to continue to serve the country!

WE HAVE RECEIVED the proceedings of a public meeting held in Mysore in honor of the late Mr. Ranga Charloo, which we regret we cannot give *in extenso* for want of space. Resolutions were passed expressive of the sense of the loss sustained by the country in the premature death of Mr. Ranga Charloo, adopting a letter of condolence to his son, proposing a memorial, a Town Hall, for the commemoration of his memory, and appointing a Committee to give effect to the Resolutions. The movement has our hearty sympathy.

WE HAVE received a copy of a memorial submitted to His Excellency the Viceroy by certain Hindu inhabitants of this province against the extension of the Pooree Lodging Houses Act to Gya on the ground that the *Gyalis* do not charge rent for the house accommodation they give to pilgrims. The offerings they receive are for the services they render. Accordingly they hold that the Pooree Lodging Houses Act ought not and cannot apply to them. A representation to this effect had been made to the Government of Bengal, but without success. The present memorial is an appeal against the decision of the Bengal Government. We think the memorialists have made out a good case. They justly add that the tax on the lodging houses is virtually a tax on the pilgrims, as the *Gyalis* are now compelled to charge rent, which they did not do before. If the sanitary regulation of the houses be the object of Government, cannot that object be attained by Government through the Municipal Act?

A CURIOUS CASE of Government interference with private benevolence has come to our notice. Raja Ramranjan Chuckerbutty of Hitampore, Beerbhoom, proposed to raise a second class dispensary in Beerbhoom to a first class one under the Dispensary rules of Government, himself undertaking to bear all expenses. He nominated a supernumerary Assistant Surgeon Babu B. N. Mookerjea, whose work he had seen in the last fever season in that district, and who enjoyed the confidence of the people, and applied to Government for sanction. The Surgeon-General has refused the request and the Government has endorsed his opinion on the ground that the Assistant Surgeon is a junior, that his name is borne on the Government of India list, that his turn for permanent appointment had not arrived, and that the Raja could not therefore be allowed to have a man of his own choice. This we submit is a strange way of stimulating private benevolence. Under the Dispensary Rules the donor is entitled to apply for the services of any doctor he likes, and as in this instance the Raja offers to bear the whole expenses, surely he ought to have been allowed to make his own selection, he not being bound by the rules of the Department. Even if the Department thought that the Assistant Surgeon was not entitled to permanent appointment, surely his services could have been lent as a temporary arrangement, the confirmation of his appointment on the permanent establishment being deferred till his turn came. We are sure that if the matter be properly explained to Mr. Rivers Thompson, he will not sanction a course which cannot but have a most discouraging effect upon private benevolence. Is this the way the Medical Department of Bengal seeks to throw cold water upon the public spirit and generosity of our countrymen?

WE CANNOT too highly commend the public spirit of Mr. Thomas Jones, who has volunteered his services to the Municipal Corporation of Calcutta in connection with the enquiries now going on into the sanitary state of Calcutta. He has two months' privilege leave at his credit, and he has applied for one month's leave in order to devote his whole time to the work of the Committee. He proposes to make personal enquiries into the working of the sewers, the character, extent, and distribution of the existing establishment, the methods of controlling their working power, and the work of the drainage department both as regards labour and supervision. The Committee have accepted his offer with thanks, and requested the Chairman to give Mr. Jones every facility in the prosecution of his labours. We hope the work of the Committee will now receive a practical shape.

WE LATELY acknowledged the receipt of an essay by Babu Pramadadas Mitra on "Brahma, Isvara and Maya," to which we now wish to invite special attention of those who are interested in the philosophical dogmas of ancient India. The subject is too recondite for treatment in a newspaper, but it is a good sign of the times that our rising generation, trained by English tutors, should turn their attention to the glorious intellectual treasures of their ancestors. It appears that Mr. Gough, in one of his contributions in the *Calcutta Review*, described the God of the Vedanta to be a Demiurgus, and the Babu, with consummate tact and ability, shows that the opinion is a mistake, and that the Vedanta ideal of the Divinity is entirely different. Mistaken notions are unavoidable, and on the part of European scholars working with a prejudice and possessing a scant knowledge of Indian literature cannot be very remarkable; but in the dispute between the two polemecists we cannot help noticing the sneering haughteur on the part of the Englishman and the sober, courteous and philosophic temper on that of the Bengali writer.

BABU NISIKANTA CHATTAPADHYA has won fresh laurels in Europe. There are three grades of distinction in the Ph. D. Examination of Germany, and he has passed it in the first. He took up the Indo-Aryan languages and their literatures as his chief subject, and the English and French literatures as his subject secondary. Besides the thesis, which was accepted about a year ago, Babu Nisikanta had to undergo four examinations in December last. The subject of the first examination was an analysis of *Mricchakatika*, the oldest Sanskrit drama; that of the second a similar work on Lord Macaulay as a literary man; that of the third a review of the entire Sanskrit literature, from the Vedic to the most modern of Indian dialects; and that of the last the English and French literatures. When announcing the result of the examinations, Professor Avenarius, the deacon of the Philological Faculty, addressed Babu Nisikanta in the following words:—"Herr Chattopadhya, I have the pleasure to announce to you that the Faculty is not only satisfied with the examinations you have so successfully passed, but accords to you the highest distinction it has in its power to do—*summa cum laude*. After 10 years of study in Europe you are now bent on going back to your fatherland, and I and my fellow-members sincerely wish you all success and prosperity in your future career."

Babu Nisikanta is now a Ph. D. or Doctor of Philosophy: his reputation as a literary man and linguist has thus been confirmed by an eminent European University. His last work in German, a pretty large volume of essays on subjects of Indian interest, which appeared three or four months ago, has increased Dr. Chattopadhya's reputation as a literary man and scholar. Dr. Chattopadhya is expected back in India in the last week of this month. We hope the Government will avail itself of the services of such a distinguished scholar in the cause of education.

HIS MAJESTY Kalakaua, King of the Hawaiian Islands, has conferred upon our distinguished townsman, Raja Sourindra Mohun Tagore, Mus. Doc. C. I. E. the dignity of Knight Commander of the Royal Order of Kapiolani in recognition of his eminent services to the cause of Indian Music. It is a matter of national congratulation that the Raja's fame has reached even such a remote corner of the world as the Hawaiian Islands. The reader might recollect that His Majesty Kalakaua paid a flying visit to Calcutta last year.

THE SHOE QESTION IN THE HIGH COURT! It has been brought to our notice that Mr. Justice Norris has issued verbal orders to the effect that no person should be admitted to his Court with native shoes on. We confess we could hardly believe this and still hope that we are misinformed. Is it credible that an English gentleman, fresh from the land of freedom, would stoop so low as to look at the make of the shoes of a supplicant for justice? The first English

Judges of the Calcutta Supreme Court were horror-struck at seeing the poor people of this city without shoes, and is it come to this that a worthy successor of theirs has issued an *ukase* that poor Indians entering the Palace of Justice with native shoes on must take them off? We hope we will be placed in a position to contradict this rumour in our next.

WE HAVE much pleasure in reproducing the following remarks on the Vernacular Press of Bengal contained in the last Bengal Administration Report:

The vernacular press shows a distinct advance on the position it held five or six years ago. Though it is not yet free from the abuses or defects natural to a young institution in a country like India, there has been an improvement in its tone, its literary merits, and its value to the administration, both as an educator of the people and a guide to the Government. The native press discusses now not simply local affairs and private concerns, but every kind of questions of political and public interest; and though this is done in many cases from a too exclusively native point of view, the Government does not think that this feature is to be entirely deprecated. When the arguments used are temperate and expressed, as is often the case, with ability and force, they afford a valuable indication of native opinion.

We hope this spontaneous testimony of the Lieutenant-Governor to the worth, improved tone, and increasing usefulness of the Vernacular Press will silence its enemies.

WE HEARTILY second the movement set on foot in Bombay for the publication of a monthly journal containing extracts and translations of articles from Indo-English and Vernacular papers published in the different provinces. The scheme is excellent, and as its execution is entrusted to a select Committee of experienced and public-spirited gentlemen, of which the veteran, Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji will be the working member, there are good elements of success. As matters now go, the battle of Indian reform must to a great extent be fought out in England, and it is therefore necessary to diffuse correct information regarding Indian affairs among the governing classes in England. About fifteen years ago we had proposed a similar scheme, but from want of adequate support it fell through. The times have changed, and we hope the present project, which is founded on an extended basis, will have a better chance of success. All India should unite and give strength to "THE VOICE OF INDIA." If it finds a response in England, it will prove a powerful auxiliary to the cause of good government in India.

WE ARE exceedingly glad to observe that Babu Radhika Prosad Mookerjea, Executive Engineer, Bengal Public Works Department, at present employed under the Road Cess Committee of the 24-Perganahs, has been elected a member of the Institution of Civil Engineers in London. Babu Radhika Prosad was one of the most distinguished *alumni* of the late Civil Engineering College of this city. That institution during the short period of its existence produced many excellent Native Engineers, and Babu Radhika Prosad was one of them. He is in every way deserving of the high honour which has been done to him by the Institution of Civil Engineers in London. The only other Native Engineer, who is a member of the Institution, is Lala Kanahya Lal, Rao Bahadur, Executive Engineer, Lahore. The high honour, which has been done to Lala Kanahya Lal and Babu Radhika Prosad Mookerjea by the Institution of Civil Engineers, should stimulate young Native Engineers to follow their noble example.

DR. DE JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUALLED EFFICACY IN CONSUMPTION.—Allen G. Chattaway, Esq. District Medical Officer, Leominster, testifies, as follows, to the unraparalleled efficacy of this celebrated Oil in the treatment of Consumption:—"Having for some years extensively used Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil, both in public and private practice, I have no hesitation in stating that its effects are very far superior to those of any other Cod Liver Oil. Nearly four years since, two cases of continued consumption were placed under my care. In both, the lungs were a mass of tubercular deposit, and every possible sound to be heard in Phthisis was present. The sole remedy employed was Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil; and now the patients are strong and fat; the diseased (abnormal) sounds nearly inaudible; and in the one case (male), hunting, fishing, and shooting are freely indulged in the patient expressing himself quite capable of undergoing as much fatigue as any of his fellow-sportsmen." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper by all chemists, druggists and store-keepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co, 77, Strand, London.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

MOFUSSIL SUBSCRIPTIONS.	Rs.	As.	P.
Bancoorah Public Library	13	4	0
H. H. the Maharaja of Indore	13	4	0
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,, Kader Nath Banerjea, Patna	10	0	0
,, Sarut Chunder Das, Sylhet	13	4	0
,, Hem Chunder Nundi, Shahebgunge	13	4	0
,, Hurry Mohun Moitra, Krishnaghur	4	0	0
,, Shamlal Mitra, Chunderconah	6	10	0
,, Hurrydas Behary Das, Idar	13	4	0
,, Boikant Chunder Bose, Hatariah, Backergunge	13	4	0
,, Premnber Mitra, Bankipore	13	4	0
,, Soorjeenarain Singh, Bhaugulpore	13	4	0

Government Notifications

Calcutta Gazette,—*January* 31, 1883.

NOTIFICATION—11th Jany—The following revised programme of the tour of his Honour the Lieut-Govr in Behar is published for general information:—

Leave Durbhunga for Burdwan, *via* Mokameh, Wednesday, Jany 31st.

Remain at Burdwan to open the Woterworks, and leave at night by special train for Calcutta, Thursday, Feby 1st.

GENERAL—16th Jany—Babu Mohesh Chunder Sen Depy Magte and Depy Colr, Maldah, to perform the functions of a Colr, under section 4, Act VII (B C) of 1886, in that dist

Mr J C Price, Magte and Colr, Champarun, has been granted by H M's Secy of State for India an extension of furlough for one month.

Mr R H Anderson, Offg Jt Magte and Depy Colr, Barh, Patna, is vested with powers of a Colr under Act X of 1870 in that sub-divn,

Mr E F Growse, Asst Magte and Colr, Burdwan, leave for twenty days, from 29th instant.

Mr F H Barrow, Jt Magte and Depy Colr, is posted to the sudder station of Pubna, from date he was relieved of his apptmt as Offg Magte and Colr of that dist.

Mr C A Kelly, Dist and Sess Judge, Pubna, reported his departure from India, on furlough, on 22nd ult.

Mr A W Cochran, CS, reported his departure from India, on furlough, on 25th ult.

In modification of the notification dated the 14th Novr last, the following officers act in the second grade of Magtes and Colrs, from the dates mentioned opposite their names:—

Mr H G Sharp from 11th Septr, 1882.
Mr W Fiddian from 2nd Octr, 1882.
Mr H G Cooke from 2nd Octr, 1882.
Mr F H Barrow from 3rd Octr, 1882.
Mr A W Paul from 9th to the 17th Octr, 1882.

Babu Gopendra Krishna, Asst Magte and Colr, Culna, Burdwan, returned to duty on forenoon of 22nd inst.

Babu Jadu Nath Bose, Depy Magte and Depy Colr, leave for three months, from date he may be relieved of the charge of the sub-divn of Chooadanga by Babu Bunkim Chunder Chatterjee.

Mr F H Harding, Offg Jt Magte and Depy Colr, in charge of the Tajpore divn of Durbhunga, leave for one month and ten days, from 1st Feby, 1883, or subsequent date.

Mr R W Carlyle, Asst Magte and Colr, Jessore, to have charge of the Tajpore divn of Durbhunga, during absence of Mr F H Harding.

Mr K J Badshah, Asst Magte and Colr, Goalundo Fureedpore, is vested with powers of a Colr under Act X of 1870 in that sub-divn.

POLICE—25th Jany—Mr R H G Irvine, Dist Suprdt to, Police, on leave temply to act as Dist Superdt of Police Mozufferpore, during absence, on deputn, of Mr H Munro.

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ABDOOL LUTIFF,
Secretary.

NO. A 259.

COMPTROLLER GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Calcutta, the 12*th January* 1883.

FEOM THE AUDITORS OF THE ACCOUNTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE HOOGHLY BRIDGE,

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THE HOOGHLY BRIDGE.

GENTLEMEN,—We have the honor to report that we have examined the accounts of the Hooghly Bridge for the half-year ending the 30th of September 1882 and have found them to be correct.

The Receipts and Expenditure for the half-year are shewn below by side with the Estimate for the whole year:

Receipts.	Realisations of the half year. Rs.	As	P.	Estimate for the whole year. Rs.
Receipts from Railway traffic ...	174165	...	6	277000
Do. Local do. ...	55479	12	...	110959
Interest on Government securities..	9201	3	5	21996
Receipts from other sources ...	10271	6	11	13393
Total.....	249117	6	10	423348
Balance on 1st April 1882..	13408	14	8	
Grand Total...	262526	5	6	
Expenditure.				
Interest and Sinking Fund on Loans	37293	12	...	149283
Repayment of Loan	50000	...	...	125000
Ordinary Expenditure	48776	12	10	129075
Total.....	136070	8	10	403308
Balance on 30th September 1882	126455	12	8	
Grand Total...	262526	5	6	

The assets and liabilities of the Hooghly Bridge on the 30th September 1882 were as follows:—

Assets.			
Block of the Hooghly Bridge ...	2496593	10	7
Reserve Section	108761	1	9
Investment for Reserve Fund ...	513589	3	...
Do. do. Section ..	23587	...	...
Works Appropriation	24238	14	3
Government Promissory Notes of Depositors	9500	...	...
Suspense Accounts	180	7	...
Trust Account (cash Balance) ...	126927	3	11
Total.....	3303377	8	6
Liabilities.			
Loan from Government	1636666	10	8
Contribution from Revenue for repayment of loan	605133	5	4
Do. do. new works	306903	15	...
Do. do. of the Port for Tug Steamers	40313	...	...
Reserve Fund	513589	3	...
Fund for Reserve Section	24238	14	3
Fine recovered by Government from the contractor for the construction of iron works and remitted to the Commissioners	7866	11	8
Balance refunded by the Executive Engineer 1st Calcutta Division ...	9509	15	11
Sale proceeds of workshop building tools and plants ...	23200	...	...
Deposit of Government Promissory Notes. ...	9500	...	...
Net Revenue	126455	12	8
Total.....	3303377	8	6

We have &c.,
(Sd.) J. WESTLAND.
Comptroller General.
(Sd.) R. N. ROY,
Assistant Comptroller General.

Published in accordance with the provisions of Section 26 Act IX (B.C.) of 1871 and Section 53 Act V. (B. C.) of 1870.

By order of the Commissioners,
G. H. SIMMONS,
Secretary.

The 26*th January* 1883.

NO. A 260

COMPTROLLER GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Calcutta, the 12*th January* 1883.

FROM THE AUDITORS OF THE ACCOUNTS OF THE COMMISSIONERS FOR MAKING IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PORT OF CALCUTTA.

TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR MAKING IMPROVEMENTS IN THE PORT OF CALCUTTA.

GENTLEMEN,—We have the honor to report that we have examined your cash and store accounts for the half-year ending the 30th September 1882, and that we have found them to be correct.

2. The transactions of the half-year will be found summarised in the annexed table.

Revenue Accounts (part I-IX & VI-VII.

Receipts.	Part I. Jetties. Rs.	As.	P.	Part II. Inland vessels wharves. Rs.	As.	P.	Part III. Strand Bank Lands. Rs.	As.	P.	Part IV. Port or River Division. Rs.	As.	P.	Part VI. Tramway. Rs.	As.	P.	Part VII. Port Approaches. Rs.	As.	P.	Total. Rs.	As.	P.
Estimate for the year (page 1 of the Budget)	7,39,991	0	0	3,84,564	...	...	1,60,267	0	0	4,76,104	0	0	1,75,000	0	0	1,98,143	0	0	21,34,069	0	0
Revenue realized during the ½ year .	3,62,848	14	9	1,84,510	3	5	71,441	7	1	2,52,512	5	10	68,807	0	8	58,651	0	0	9,98,770	15	9
Contribution from other Parts ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,25,000	0	0	1,25,000	0	0
Balance on 1st April 1882... ...	1,68,169	14	11	91,070	0	9	82,943	6	10	2,78,371	5	0	26,662	0	5	28,801	6	8	6,71,018	3	4
Total..	5,31,018	13	8	2,75,580	4	2	1,54,884	13	11	5,80,883	11	7	95,469	1	1	2,07,452	6	8	17,94,789	3	1
Expenditure.																					
Estimate for the year (page 1 of the Budget)	7,66,820	0	0	3,35,106	0	0	1,96,336	0	0	4,98,715	0	0	1,27,961	0	0	3,87,118	0	0	28,12,056	0	0
Expenditure proper	3,74,946	12	0	1,19,978	5	2	47,708	8	2	2,06,685	2	0	50,732	3	7	1,81,313	11	8	9,81,364	10	0
Contribution to Part VII. ...	40,000	0	0	40,000	0	0	...	...	...	45,000	0	0	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,25,000	0	0
Balance on 30th September 1882 ...	1,16,072	1	8	1,15,601	15	0	1,06,676	5	9	2,79,198	9	7	44,736	13	6	26,138	11	0	6,88,424	8	6
Total.....	5,31,018	13	8	2,75,580	4	2	1,54,884	13	11	5,80,883	11	7	95,469	1	1	2,07,452	6	8	17,94,789	3	1

CAPITAL ACCOUNT (PART V.)

Receipts.

	Rs.	As.	P.
Contribution from revenue for repayment of loan	46,903	13	3
Do. Do. new works	83,000	0	0
Sinking Fund on Debenture Loan	10,107	2	0
Chutto Lall's Bathing Ghat	300	0	0
Stock and Suspense Accounts	6,35,306	9	4
Total	7,75,617	8	7
Balance on 1st April 1882	6,53,198	9	3
Grand Total	14,28,816	1	10

Expenditure.

Repayment of loans from Government	46,903	13	3
Investment in Government Securities of sinking Fund for Debenture Loan	10,107	2	0
Chutto Lal's Bathing Ghat	175	7	0
Block (Works Completed)	500	0	0
Works under construction	5,02,306	13	9
Stock and Suspense accounts	8,15,834	12	7
Total	13,75,828	0	7
Balance on 30th September 1882	52,988	1	3
Grand Total	14,28,816	1	10

3. Your financial position on the 30th September 1882 is shewn in the annexed statement of your assets and liabilities.

We have &c.,

(Sd.) J. WESTLAND,—Comptroller General,

(Sd.) R. N. ROY,—Assistant Comptroller General.

Published in accordance with the provisions of Section 53 Act V (B.C.) of 1870.

By order of the Commissioners,

The 26th January, 1883. G. H. SIMMONS,—*Secretary.*

ASSETS.

PARTICULARS.	Part I. Jetties.			Part II. Inland vessels wharves.			Part III. Strand Bank Lands.			Part IV. Port.			Part V. Capital Account.			Part VI. Tramway.			Part VII. Port Approaches.			TOTAL.		
	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	A.	P.
Investment for Port Reserve Fund.	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	3,64,250	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	3,64,250	...	...
Do. ,, Jetty Do. ...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	89,932	12	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	89,932	12	...
Do. ,, Port Depreciation Reserve Fund ...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	1,99,994	14	4	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	1,99,994	14	4
Do. ,, Insurance Reserve Fund	41,093	12	5	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	41,093	12	5
Do. ,, Funds of Chutto Lall's Bathing Ghat	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	15,892	10	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	15,892	10	...
Do. ,, Sinking Fund for debenture Loan...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	20,211	15	1	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	20,211	15	1
Government Promissory Notes of Depositors ...	31,600	...	...	13,200	...	...	1,200	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	500	...	...	.....	...	...	46,500	...	...
Do. Saving Banks (Deposits in) ...	2,600	...	...	100	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	2,700	...	...
Suspense Account	12,728	3	5																					
Advance Account	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	2,616	1	3	71,378	15	3	.....	...	...	34	9	7	86,757	13	6
Stock	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	1,60,200	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	165	9	..	1,60,365	9	...
Contribution for Stock	20,000	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	2,51,217	1	6	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	2,51,217	1	6
Collector, Treasurer and others for Miscellaneous bills	28,894	10	7	1,061	...	6	9,130	6	9	2,272	3	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	41,358	4	10
Block	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	1,19,12,304	...	6	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	1,19,12,804	...	6
Works under construction ...	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	13,18,732	9	7	.....	...	...	.....	...	..	13,18,732	9	7
Depreciation of Marine Block ...	...	...	.	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	2,10,000	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	.	2,10,000	...	...
Advance Accounts for new works..	...	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	..	.....	...	...	4,72,149	8	6	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	4,72,149	8	6
Trust Account (Cash Balance) ...	93,403	4	6	1,06,764	5	3	98,022	14	...	1,19,703	7	8	52,988	1	3	45,062	...	...	25,988	8	5	5,41,882	9	1
TOTAL	2,30,319	14	11	1,31,125	5	9	1,18,353	4	9	3,04,791	11	11	1,49,79,052	8	...	45,562	...	...	26,138	11	...	1,58,35,343	8	4

LIABILITIES.

Port Reserve Fund	.....	...	...	.....	...	..	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	3,64,250	...	..	.....	...	...	.....	..	..	3,64,250	...	...
Jetty Do.	.....	...	...	.....	.	...	.....	...	..	.....	...	...	90,000	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	..	90,000	...	...
Insurance Do.	48,691	...	11	.....	...	...	.....	...	..	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	..	..	48,691	...	11
Sinking Fund for Debenture Loan	.....	..	..	.....	...	..	.....	...	..	.....	...	...	20,211	15	1	.....	...	...	.....	...	..	20,211	15	1
Depreciation Fund Account ...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	2,10,000	..	...	.....	...	...	.....	..	..	2,10,000	...	...
Bathing Ghat to memory of Chutto Lall	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	16,782	10	3	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	16,782	10	3
Deposit of Government Promissory Notes.	31,600	...	...	13,200	..	...	1,200	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	500	...	...	.....	...	...	46,500	...	...
Do. Employes in the Government Savings Bank...	2,600	...	...	100	..	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	..	.....	...	...	.....	..	..	2,700	...	...
Suspense Account	.....	...	...	18	9	..	846	8	3	.....	...	...	38,996	15	4	321	10	6	.....	..	..	40,183	11	1
Deposits	2,462	1	9	1,143	13	3	500	...	...	23,320	15	4	250	...	...	3	8	...	.....	...	..	27,680	6	4
Demand account for miscellaneous and other bills	28,894	10	7	1,061	..	6	9,130	6	9	2,272	3	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	.	.....	..	..	41,358	4	10
Loan from Government for Jetties, wharves &c	.....	..	...	.....	..	...	.....	...	...	.....	..	...	5,115,925	15	9	.....	...	...	.....	..	..	51,15,925	15	9
Loan from Government for Port...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	17,65,000	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	..	17,65,000	...	...
Debenture Loan of 1881	.....	...	...	.....	..	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	10,00,000	...	..	.....	..	..	.....	...	.	10,00,000	...	...
Premium for Do..	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	62,687	8	...	.....	...	..	.....	..	..	62,687	8	...
Interest on investment of Surplus cash balance	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	4,500	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	..	.	4,500	...	...
Temporary Loan received from Part IV	.....	...	..	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	1,60,000	..	...	.....	..	...	.....	..	..	1,60,000	...	...
Contribution from Revenue for repayment of Loans	.....	..	.	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	9,09,174	...	3	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	9,09,174	...	3
Contribution from Revenue for new works and renewals ...	.....	..	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	41,40,680	13	8	.....	...	..	.....	...	...	41,40,680	13	8
Contribution from Revenue for Stock	.....	...	.	.....	...	...	.....	..	...	.....	...	...	60,000	...	...	.....	..	.	.....	...	...	60,000	...	...
Contribution from Government for new Roads	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	74,584	..	..	.....	.	...	.....	...	...	74,584	...	...
Sale of Surplus Lands	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	4,07,816	10	5	.....	..	...	.....	...	...	4,07,816	10	5
Sale of materials of buildings dismantled for new roads ...	.....	..	...	.....	...	...	.....	..	...	.....	..	...	48,892	6	9	.....	.	..	.....	...	...	48,892	6	9
Value of River Police block received from Government ...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	.....	..	...	.....	...	...	7,150	..	..	.....	..	...	.....	...	...	7,150	...	...
Value of Landing Stage at Princeps Ghat received from Government	.....	...	...	.....	..	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	10,000	...	...	.....	..	.	.....	...	...	10,000	...	...
Net Revenue	1,16,072	1	8	1,15,601	15	...	1,06,676	5	9	2,79,198	9	7	.....	...	...	44,736	13	6	26,138	11	...	6,88,424	8	6
Fund Account for new works ...	.....	...	...	.....	..	...	.....	...	...	.....	...	...	3,59,516	...	...	.....	.	...	.....	...	...	3,59,516	...	...
Works appropriation	.....	..	.	.....	...	...	.....	..	..	.....	...	..	1,12,683	8	6	.....	..	.	.....	...	...	1,12,683	8	6
TOTAL	2,30,319	14	11	1,31,125	5	9	1,18,353	4	9	3,04,791	11	11	1,49,79,052	8	...	45,562	..	...	26,138	11	...	1,58,35,343	8	4

(Sd.) R. N. ROY,
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28	×	20	×	18	„	85
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